

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE**



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner
Jeff Regnart, Director*



Contact:
Jeff Estensen, Area Management Biologist
Phone: (907) 949-1320
Fax: (907) 949-1830

Lower Yukon Area Office
P.O. Box 127
Emmonak, Alaska 99581
Date Issued: 8/30/13
Time: 1:45 P.M.

**2013 Yukon River Fall Salmon Fishery News Release # 35
Fall Announcement # 30, District 2 Commercial Period 11**
Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area

District Y-2

Commercial fishing will be open for one period in District Y-2 on Saturday, August 31 from 2:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. This will be a 5-hour commercial fishing period with gillnets restricted to six-inch or smaller mesh.

The preliminary cumulative harvest for Y-2 through August 30 is 103,600 fall chum and 26,500 coho salmon.

By regulation, the fall chum salmon directed commercial fishery in Districts 1 and 2 closes after August 31. The preliminary cumulative fall chum salmon commercial harvest for Districts 1 and 2 combined through August 30 is 210,092 fish which is in the top ten Lower Yukon River harvests since 1961. The preliminary cumulative coho salmon commercial harvest for both districts through August 30 is 56,825 fish.

A coho salmon directed commercial fishery can be prosecuted in Districts 1 and 2 from September 1 through September 10 if inseason run assessment indicates there is a surplus of coho salmon available for harvest. At this time the coho salmon run appears to be well below average. Through August 29, coho salmon passage past the Pilot Station sonar project is 73,000 fish. This is below the historical median of 112,100 for that date and the second lowest on record. It is unlikely there will be any coho salmon directed commercial openings in Districts 1 and 2 in 2013. However, assessment of the coho salmon run is ongoing and the department will consider providing coho salmon directed commercial openings in Districts 1 and 2 if run strength improves.

In District Y-2 subsistence salmon fishing is open 7 days per week except for 12 hours before, during, and 12 hours after each commercial fishing period with gillnets restricted to a maximum mesh size of 7.5 inches. In District Y-2 subsistence salmon fishing will close at 2:00 a.m. Saturday, August 31 and reopen at 7:00 a.m. Sunday, September 1.

Recorded fishery announcements and updates will be available 24 hours a day at 949-1731 or 1-866-479-7387. If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the Emmonak ADF&G office at 949-1320. The Emmonak ADF&G office will stand by on VHF channel 7A. The Emmonak Field Office will be closing for the season at 5:00 p.m. Saturday, August 31 For further information, please contact the Fairbanks ADF&G office at 459-7274.

This has been an announcement by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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